

# Merrillville Police Department



2007  
Annual Report

# **MERRILLVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

## **2007 ANNUAL REPORT**

### **INTRODUCTION**

In reviewing the data presented herein, keep in mind that the principle objective of the compilation is to make readily available a purposeful collection of criminal, traffic and police statistics for administrative and operational use. At the same time, the data is provided for those not directly associated with police operations, but having a related interest in the problems of law enforcement in our community.

Proper reporting and collecting of police activity and criminal incidents, along with interpretation of these statistics, are an essential element of enforcement and prevention of crime.

Police records afford valuable administrative and investigative use. Failure to maintain an adequate records system results in a loss in police performance and a loss to the community. The intelligent use of law enforcement records is a vital tool in meeting the challenge for efficient police work.

Crime is a social problem and the concern of the entire community. A community's crime rate is primarily the product of its inhabitants, victims, as well as the perpetrators of crime. Law enforcement, through its records, statistically report on local crime conditions as a part of its community responsibility. Positive action to reduce crime depends to a large extent on the degree to which the individual citizen supports law enforcement.

Police efforts to control crime are limited to: Prevention, by exposing the nature of the crime, principally the effect of contributing community factors; Suppression, through properly oriented and alert patrol procedures; and Deterrence, through successful investigation and apprehension of the offender.

Factors which cause crime are many and variable; therefore, no positive conclusion can be arrived at by comparing the crime figures of one year to those of another year without first considering the factors involved. The material summarized in the criminal section of this report can be used as a guide in determining the deviations of the crime rate between individual years. These rates can be compared to the national averages reported in the F.B.I. Uniform Crime Report.



## **Merrillville Police Department**

### **Police Commissioners**

Larry Ulbrich

Rick Bella

John Johnson

### **Administration**

#### **Chief of Police**

Joseph Petruch

#### **Assistant Chief of Police**

James Donohue

#### **Operations Commander**

Lance Huish

#### **Support Services Commander**

David Barron

#### **Patrol Commander**

Daniel Kijurna



## Merrillville Police Department

### Personnel Statistics

2007

Enforcement	49
Civilian - Full time	14
Civilian - Part time	8
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>71</b>

### Enforcement Rank Percentage

Phone Line	% of Total	Total Within Rank
Chief	2%	1
Assistant Chief	2%	1
Commander	6%	3
Lieutenant	2%	1
Sergeant	18%	9
Corporal	10%	5
Patrolman	59%	29

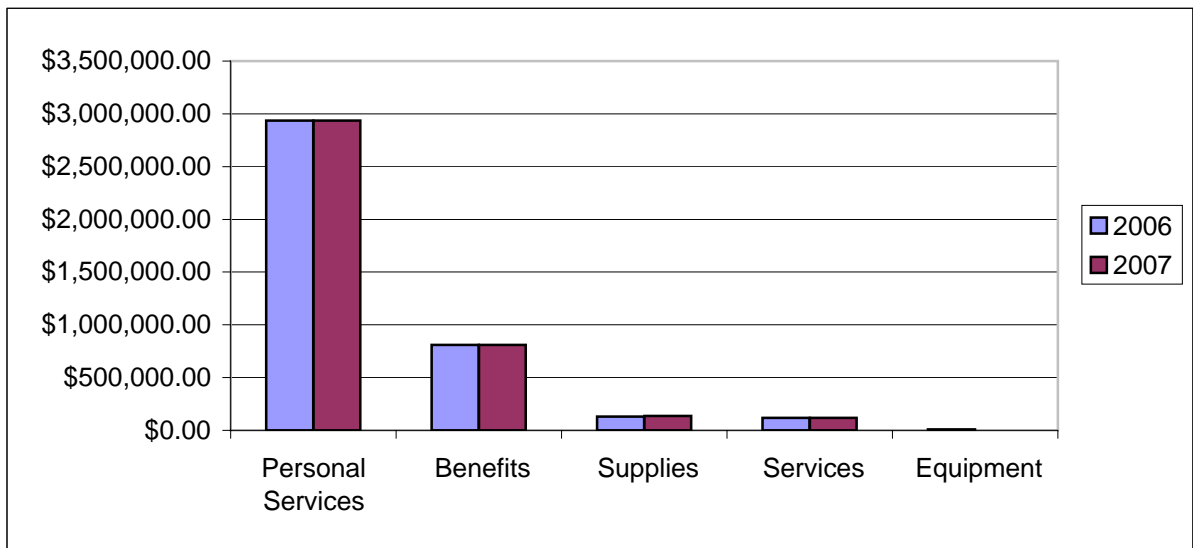


## Merrillville Police Department

### Funding

2006	
Personal Services:	\$2,934,911.00
Benefits:	\$808,710.00
Supplies:	\$131,000.00
Services:	\$119,000.00
Equipment:	\$8,000.00
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>\$4,001,621.00</b>

2007	
Personal Services:	\$2,934,735.00
Benefits:	\$809,606.00
Supplies:	\$136,000.00
Services:	\$117,000.00
Equipment:	\$0.00
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>\$3,997,341.00</b>



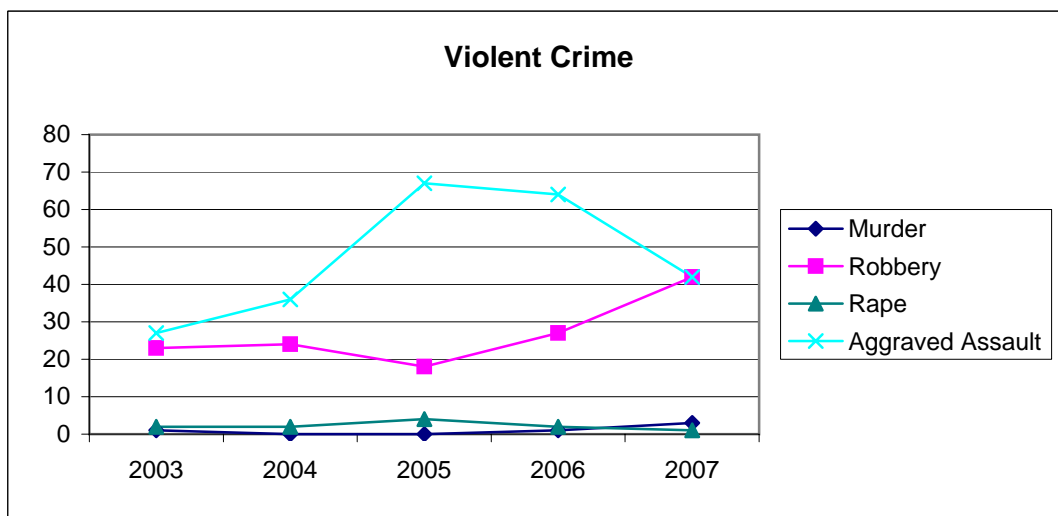


## Merrillville Police Department

### FBI Crime Statistics - Adults

<b>Violent Crime</b>	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Murder	1	0	0	1	3
Robbery	23	24	18	27	42
Rape	2	2	4	2	1
Aggravated Assault	27	36	67	64	42
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>88</b>

<b>Property Crime</b>	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Burglary	91	93	82	93	122
Vehicle Theft	181	166	154	152	130
Theft	833	824	754	857	808
Arson	1	1	1	0	2
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>1,106</b>	<b>1,084</b>	<b>991</b>	<b>1,102</b>	<b>1,062</b>





## Merrillville Police Department

### Adult Arrests

Offenses	2006	2007	% Change
Murder	0	2	+200
Rape	0	1	+100
Robbery	5	36	+620
Vehicle Theft	10	10	+0
Burglary	11	25	+127
Aggravated Assault	24	33	+38
Vandalism	18	28	+56
Drug Abuse	67	47	-30
Liquor Laws	17	16	-6
Drunkenness	158	156	-1
Theft	190	248	+31
Other Assaults	115	94	-18
Forgery/Counterfeiting	5	4	-20
Weapons	6	11	+83
Offenses-Family/Children	2	3	+50
Operating While Intoxicated	126	171	+36
Disorderly Conduct	64	73	+14
Sex Offense	3	6	+100
Fraud	37	29	-22



## Merrillville Police Department

### Juvenile Arrests

Offenses	2006	2007	% Change
Robbery	3	3	+0
Vehicle Theft	2	4	+100
Burglary	9	4	-56
Aggravated Assault	15	2	-87
Vandalism	13	3	-77
Drug Abuse	12	20	+67
Liquor Laws	8	10	+25
Drunkenness	4	1	-75
Runaways	36	31	-14
Theft	52	41	-21
Other Assaults	48	49	+2
Operating While Intoxicated	1	1	+0
Disorderly Conduct	12	18	+50
Sex Offense	0	2	+200
Fraud	2	0	-200
Stolen Property	0	1	+100
All Other Offenses	10	11	+10
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>-11</b>





## Merrillville Police Department

### Reports Taken

Offenses	2006	2007	% Change
Homicide	1	3	+200
Rape	1	2	+100
Robbery	27	42	+56
Non-Domestic Battery	250	244	-2
Domestic Battery	78	63	-19
Burglary Residence	62	72	+16
Burglary Business	30	50	+67
Vehicle Theft	150	130	-13
Vehicle Recovery	62	73	+18
Larceny Residence	114	106	-7
Larceny Business	112	93	-17
Larceny Auto	291	247	-15
Larceny Other	161	145	-10
Shoplifting	124	173	+40
Arson	0	3	+300
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>1,463</b>	<b>1,446</b>	<b>-1</b>

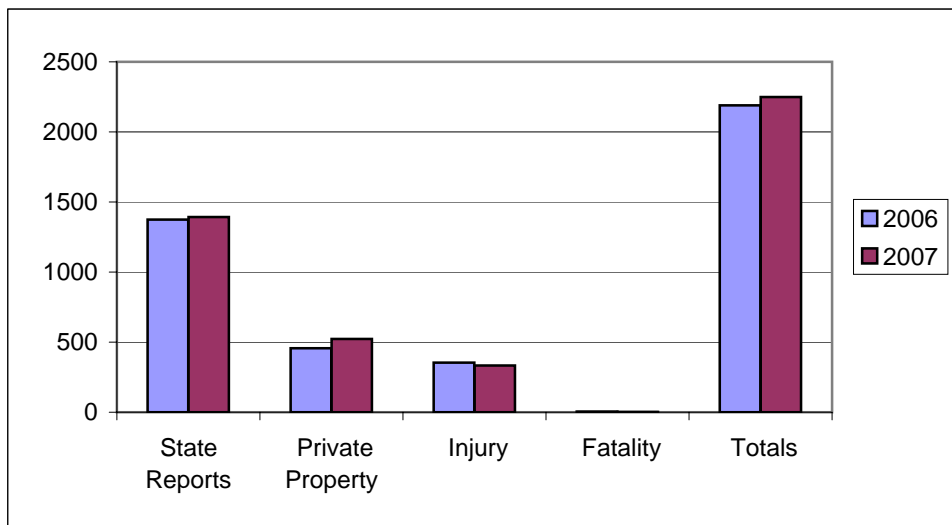


## Merrillville Police Department

### Accidents

Accident Types	2006	2007	% Change
State Reports	1374	1392	+1
Private Property	456	523	+15
Personal Injury	355	333	-6
Fatality	5	2	-60
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>2190</b>	<b>2250</b>	<b>+3</b>

Other Accident Stats	2006	2007	% Change
Number of Vehicles Involved	3350	3190	-5
Number of Injuries	316	321	+2
Primary Cause was Alcohol	50	44	-12
Hit and Run	228	220	-4



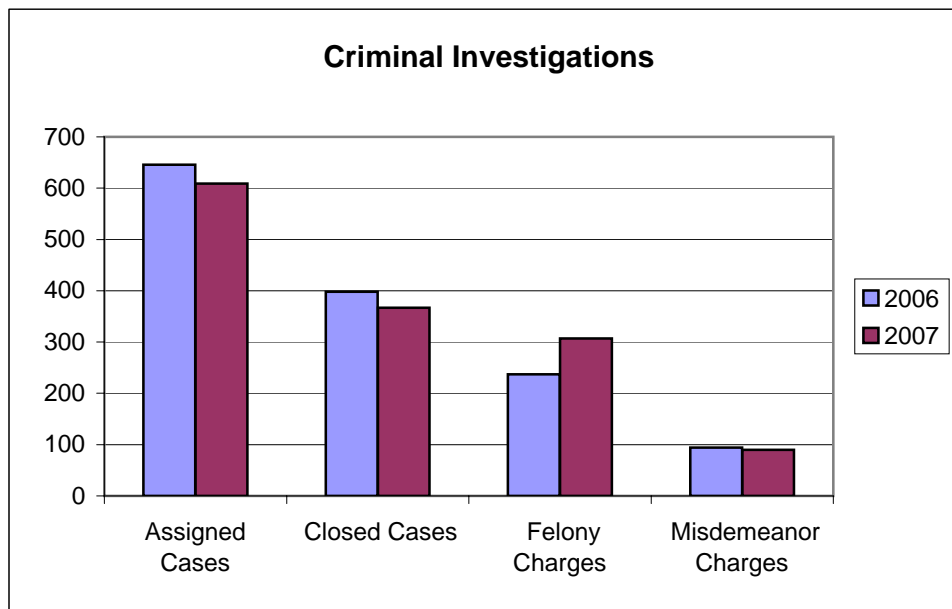


## Merrillville Police Department

### Criminal Investigations

	2006	2007	% Change
Case Reports Assigned	646	609	-6
Case Reports Closed	398	367	-8
Felony Counts	237	307	+30
Misdemeanor Counts	94	90	-4

Case Closure Rate	62.0%	60.3%	-3
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## Merrillville Police Department

### Patrol Operations

	2006	2007	% Change
Traffic Citations	12,523	11,037	-12
Traffic Warnings	2,642	3,023	+14
O.W.I. Arrests	126	171	+36
Handicap Parking Citations	460	420	-9

Alarm Citations	28	70	+150
Dog Citations	84	70	-17
Firelane Citations	53	149	+181
No Parking Citations	114	121	+6
Weed Citations	101	56	-45
Other Citations	848	711	-16
Inpound Animals	448	353	-21
Dog Bite Citations	17	11	-35
False Alarm Citations	1,747	1,920	+10

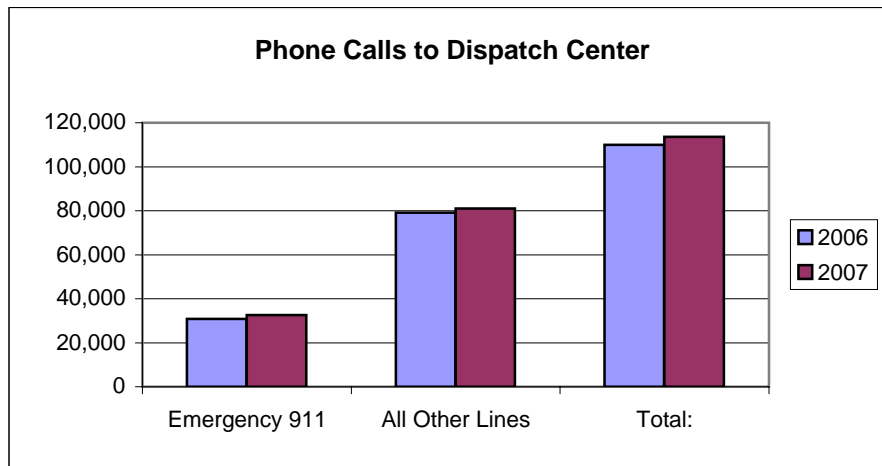
Police Service Calls	45,934	52,856	+15
Patrol Hours	82,413	83,801	+2



## Merrillville Police Department

### Phone Calls to Dispatch Center

Phone Lines	2006	2007	% Change
Emergency 911	30,900	32,606	+5
All Other Lines	79,065	80,991	+2
<b>Total:</b>	<b>109,965</b>	<b>113,597</b>	<b>+3</b>





## Merrillville Police Department

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